

Crescent City Connection Ferry Operations

Presentation to NOLA City
Council Transportation
Committee

January 22, 2013



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ACT No. 866

- Effective January 1, 2013
- Abolishes Mississippi River Bridge Authority
- Terminates Crescent City Connection Division
- Creates Crescent City Transition Fund
 - Toll Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012
 - **First \$4M for CCCD Ferry Capitalization**
 - Balance to NORPC for lighting, landscaping, grass cutting, trash pickup, improvements to ingress/egress

ACT No. 866

- **DOTD may take over, control, operate, and regulate the Crescent Connection City Ferries**
- **DOTD may privatize, franchise, or enter into a contract for ferry services**
 - **Alone or jointly with parishes or municipalities**
 - **Appoints NORPC as an advisor to ferry service contractor**

ACT No. 865

- **New Orleans Regional Planning Commission**
 - Shall Prioritize Projects for CP Fund
 - Advisory Authority for:
 - Collection of Tolls
 - Recommendations for Operations and Maintenance
 - Have access to all expenditures, revenues, project priorities, status of ongoing project, other matters
 - Advisory Authority for Privatization
 - **Provides direction on Ferry Service**

ACT No. 865

- **Creates the Algiers-Canal Street Ferry Fund**
 - Derived from collection of registration and license fees and taxes collected in the Parish of Orleans
 - Exclusively for Algiers-Canal Street Ferry
 - Subject to annual appropriation by the legislature
 - Unexpended monies to remain in fund

ACT No. 865

- **All fares collected shall be solely for CCC ferry operations**
- **NORPC may set tourist rate or non-commuter ferry rate**
- **DOTD to use best practices if ferry service not privatized**

CCCD Restructuring Overview

- **Ferry Operations to Section 42**
- Financial and Accounting to Office of Management and Finance

Current Ferry Schedule

- Lower Algiers/Chalmette
 - Operates 15 hours per day, 7 days per week, 6:00AM - 9:00PM
 - 105 operating hours per week, 120 staff hours per week
 - Vehicles and Pedestrian
- Algiers Point/Canal Street
 - Operates 18.5 hours per day, 7 days per week, 6:00AM - 12:30AM
 - 129.5 operating hours per week, 144.5 staff hours per week
 - Vehicles and Pedestrian

Current Ferry Schedule

- Gretna/Canal
 - Operates 11 hours per day, Monday – Thursday, 6:30AM - 5:30PM
 - 17 hours on Friday, 6:30AM - 11:30PM
 - 11 hours on Saturday, 12:30PM - 11:30PM
 - 7 hours on Sunday , 10:30AM - 5:30PM
 - 79 operating hours per week, 82 staff hours per week
 - Pedestrian Only

Ferry Costs, Ridership, Revenues

- Lower Algiers/Chalmette
 - Annual O&M = \$3.5 M Capital = \$0.9 M
 - Annual Total Costs = \$4.4 M
 - 5460 operating hours per year
 - Averages \$800 per hour
 - Annual Fares Collected = \$175 K
 - Annual Ridership Pedestrians = 10 K Vehicles = 500 K

Ferry Costs, Ridership, Revenues

- Algiers Point/Canal Street
 - Annual O&M = \$3.1 M Capital = \$0.9 M
 - Annual Total Costs = \$4.0 M
 - 6743 operating hours per year
 - Averages \$600 per hour
 - Annual Fares Collected = \$65K
 - Annual Ridership Pedestrians = 1.1 M Vehicles = 175 K

Ferry Costs, Ridership, Revenues

- Gretna/Canal
 - Annual O&M = \$2.3 M Capital = \$0.7 M
 - Annual Total Costs = \$3.0 M
 - 4108 operating hours per year
 - Averages \$730 per hour
 - Annual Ridership Pedestrians = 82 K

Ferry Hourly Cost Breakdown

– Staffing/Personnel

- Highest Cost - \$250 to \$300 per operating hour
- Fixed Cost, Minimum Crew Size determined by USCG
 - Based on tonnage, passenger capacity, number of decks
 - 5 person crew minimum – 1 captain, 1 engineer, 3 deckhands

– Fuel

- \$60 to \$125 per operating hour (depends on size of vessel)
- Subject to inflationary pressure
- Offers some opportunity for savings \$15 to \$35 per hour

Ferry Hourly Cost Breakdown

– Capital Costs

- Average Costs = \$150 to \$200 per operating hour
- Primarily Driven by USCG Annual Inspections and 5 year dry dock requirement
- Preventive Maintenance
- Greatly affects service reliability and annual O&M Costs

Ferry Hourly Cost Breakdown

- Insurance
 - Fixed Cost
 - \$50 to \$80 per operating hour
 - Premiums and limits set by ORM
- Operating Services & Maintenance
 - \$50 to \$75 per operating hour
 - Includes in-house and external maintenance costs, operating services include utilities

Ferry Summary

- Based on legislation, the NORPC is now responsible for directing the path forward for local ferry service
 - **Chalmette:** The Chalmette ferry fits into state ferry service model
 - **Algiers Point-Canal:** Legislation provided approximately \$800K, which provides approximately 20 hours of service per week
 - **Gretna:** There is no funding designated for the Gretna ferry

Questions ??

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